



# Africa week

S&Ds #withAfrica  
3-8-9 FEBRUARY 2022



## 10 KEY PRIORITY POINTS:

- 1. The EU-Africa partnership should be based on equal footing, respectful dialogue, mutual ownership and shared responsibility; respecting the interest of both sides. We need to work together to combat the pandemic and overcome its social, economic and health consequences through a green, sustainable, gender-just, social and fair growth and cooperation, implementing all aspects of the SDGs. It is therefore high time to develop a joined vision to work for a sustainable and just future of our planet. A new alliance of both continents to this end will be fundamental for our success.*
- 2. We urge a rethinking of the cooperation between our two continents, the new approach should strengthen Africa's supply and value chains and integrate them into our collaboration to ensure the creation of more decent jobs giving young professionals graduating from institutions in both continents an opportunity.*
- 3. In that respect we call on the EU to continue demonstrating solidarity and lead the efforts with international partners by supporting the most vulnerable nations in Africa in their recovery beyond the COVID 19 pandemic in order to build resilient, equal and inclusive societies.*
- 4. We emphasize the urgency and seriousness of irreversible global heating and we urge leaders to work constructively together for the benefit of all people and planet.*
- 5. Underline that dealing with the climate emergency should be across all policies, not as a stand-alone issue;*
- 6. We call for predictable, accountable and transparent EU support in scaling up climate action and adaptation in African countries; demonstrate fair burden-sharing and therefore scale technical and innovative financial support for the climate risk management mechanism in order to address loss and damage on the African continent.*
- 7. We also note with concern that small businesses and start-ups all led by young people have been affected by the pandemic, the EU-Africa partnership must take deliberate action to assist young people in these sectors to get back on their feet and contribute significantly in lifting our continents out of the pandemic induced recession.*
- 8. We strongly condemn military coups against democratic governments and urge respect for the rule of law and democratic principles.*
- 9. Underlines that acceptance of COVID-19 vaccines is critical to personal health, protecting vulnerable populations, reopening socio-economic life, and achieving population health and safety through immunity. The inherently social nature of COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy in Africa is potentially influenced by age, race, education, politics, geographical location, and employment. Along with the provision of information, COVID-19 vaccine communication strategies need to form part of broader trust-building measures that focus on relationships, transparency,*



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*participation, and justice. The pandemic also provides a unique opportunity to positively intervene and reduce vaccine hesitancy trends more generally.*

- 10. Finally, the partnership must assist Africa more urgently to develop its Free Trade Area agreement to include a customs union to allow young people with skills across Africa to seek opportunity without hindrance of the borders.*